

A DAY AND A NIGHT OF THE THEATERS

Melba Scores Another Triumph in the Comedy of "The Barber of Seville."

SANG "THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER."

The Symphony Society Establishes a Good Precedent With the Performance of a Dull Symphony by a Local Composer.

With the symphony in the afternoon and Melba in the evening, society had a long day of music in yesterday.

The raiment, too, came in gladder tints; diamonds were on every one's forehead; the lower floor was an almost island sea of soft shoulders and brave shirt bosoms—indeed, the town made quite a respectable show, and Melba seemed to enjoy it hugely.

It is a good thing to have the prima donna pleased with the world and herself when "The Barber" is the bill, for if there is one character in opera that clamors for good nature and elevated spirits it is Rossini's Rosina.

Melba was in a merry mood, full of capers and grimaces; and for a singer to do that is not to make a specialty, but to call an inspired actress by cool headed critics, she played the part with a very fair approach to its full value.

She was positively gingerly, and never for a moment did she lose the color of the role through trying to invest it with false refinement. "The Barber of Seville" is comic opera of the real sort, where the witticisms are not wittily verbal, but a certain amount of genial horse play is vital.

And to an American or English audience that is more or less unfamiliar with the text of the colloquial passages (which are simply ready-made comic point) the more of the fun that comes out in pantomime the better it is for the performance.

It is a limit to the physical demonstration of humor, but it is the same question last night. Not only Melba, but all of her little company seemed to feel the fun and spring of the piece and to work for an atmosphere and an ending.

With a less singer as the Rosina I could say that the play was the thing. But for all the united effort to give a first-rate performance, for all the delightful acting and singing of the company's Figaro and the quite affable comicality of Salgarnac's Almaviva (although his voice did wobble off into keys that were never written for mortal hands), it was not until the end of the play that dominated everything and set the pulse of the crowd.

It was some little time before the audience and the performers could get together in a way that was not too successful. The part of Basilio, especially in the Calumny aria, suffered at the tremolo of Viviani; but Bertha was at least acceptable from the point of view of the vocal line.

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the making of it and the good that may come out of the precedent created by its performance.

The band was at its best and Mr. Scheel made the second part of the program very lively by the spirited club-acting of the Saint-Saens ballet music to "Henry VIII" and Liszt's First Rhapsodie. The overture was the unfamiliar and unimportant one of Marschner's opera, "Hans Heiling" for the purpose that its opening measures strongly pre-figures the minor theme of the last movement in Dvorak's "New World" symphony.

ASHTON STEVENS.

PATRIOTISM AT THE ALCAZAR.

When the curtain was rung down on the second act of "The Strange Adventures of Miss Brown" at the Alcazar last evening Miss Gertrude Foster was ushered before it and gave a very tragic recital of "A Song for Cuba." The hostess grasped the situation instantly and the very walls of the auditorium echoed in response to the outburst of patriotism.

As the festive band struck up the national air and the whole audience arose to their feet in acknowledgment.

TO EXTEND POTRERO AVENUE.

A Movement on Foot to Provide a Suburban Driveway to Burlingame.

At a meeting of the Mission and Potrero Improvement Club, over which T. B. Stevin is chairman, the question of extending Potrero avenue to Army street and into the San Bruno road was discussed.

Max Popper stated that the proposed take across in the matter of having the avenue extended and the whole roadway from Ninth street to the county line sprinkled during the summer months.

He stated that the Supervisors appropriate \$9,000 annually for the purpose of keeping county roads in proper condition, and as the San Bruno road was the only county road to be looked after a portion of this money should be used for that purpose.

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EXCELSIOR BOOTH AT THE MASONIC FAIR.

It is expected that all Masons who have not already taken an active interest in the movement which is on foot to raise funds for the completion of the Decoto Home for Widows and Orphans of the fraternity will take advantage of the opportunity offered to become familiar with what Charles L. Patton and the other members of the executive committee are doing.

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Judge Carroll Cook has virtually promised to become sponsor for "Excelsior Booth," in which will be exhibited a number of very interesting American relics, including some of Martha Washington, the mother of the man who was "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

Yesterday the Grand Commandery of the Knights Templar of California met in regular order and transacted the usual routine business.

The council, has missed over three successive meetings without a valid excuse and his office has been declared vacant.

A FORTUNATE INVESTMENT. Brings Happiness to a Popular Stocktonian.

J. E. Adams of Stockton had been turning over in his mind for quite a while the advisability of pulling up stakes and going to Alaska, but deprecates his departure, because he was interested in watching the progress of the war scare.

Along in the early part of March an agent approached him with lottery tickets for sale, and in a lucky moment Adams transferred a dollar to the agent, taking in exchange therefor ticket No. 24333 in the lottery of the Beneficencia Publica of the City of Mexico.

The Beneficencia Publica is the only lottery in Mexico, which is guaranteed and protected by the Mexican National Government.

Mr. Adams sent through Wells Fargo Express to the office of Metzger & Franklin, 215 New Montgomery street, San Francisco, and received the \$15,000 without annoyance or delay.

ARRESTED AT THE PRESIDIO. A Condensed Milk Inspector of Oakland Is Found in Fort Point Examining the Guns.

A man giving his name as McCullen and claiming to be from Oakland was arrested yesterday morning at the Presidio in the examination of the guns.

McCullen said that he was an inspector of condensed milk, but could give no reason for being in the Presidio. He is thought that he has not good sense, as he talks in a rambling and disconnected sort of way.

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CONFERENCE OF EXPORTERS

The California Conference of the Epworth League Convention was formally opened last evening at the Metropolitan Temple in the form of a convention chorus.

Chorus 230 Strong Marks the Beginning of Ear-nerst Work.

Greater Portion of the Exercises to Be Held in Howard-Street Church.

PROGRAMME FOR TO-DAY.

Many Able Speakers Will Be Heard During the Session and Success Seems Assured.

The California Conference of the Epworth League Convention was formally opened last evening at the Metropolitan Temple in the form of a convention chorus.

All day long the artists had been at work decorating the interior of the hall with the league colors, white and scarlet, and by the time the first note issued from 230 throats in the Metropolitan Temple was turned into perfect harmony with the surroundings.

For the past few days the members of the league have been arriving in this city from all points, and it can easily be seen that the convention will be a success from all standpoints.

The programme which was rendered last evening was particularly well chosen. It was as follows:

Organ voluntary.....H. Brethrick Chorus....."The Holy Spirit".....Hayden Chorus....."The Radiant Morn Has Passed Away".....Sullivan Chorus....."Worthy Is the Lamb".....Handel

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THE COAL CASES.

A Demurrer to the Complaint of A. Saumet Was Sustained by Circuit Judge Morrow.

United States Circuit Judge Morrow yesterday sustained the demurrer of the defendant in the suit of A. Saumet vs. L. J. Chamberlain of the Coal Dealers' Association. Saumet complained that Chamberlain refused to sell him a certain amount of coal at a price lower than that fixed by the association.

Robert Y. Hayne appeared for Chamberlain, and A. L. Black for Saumet. The complaint was given ten days in which to amend the complaint.

A Good Time at Loyola Hall. The tenth anniversary celebration of the Leo Assembly, Y. M. C. U., took place at Loyola Hall last night and proved an unqualified success.

Read in next Sunday's Call what President Patton of Princeton University has to say about the Pigmy Poets and second-rate statesmen of the present era.

CALIFORNIANS IN NEW YORK. NEW YORK, April 21.—Paul G. T. Mayer of Fresno is at the Grand Hotel, Mr. and Mrs. Rosenbaum of San Francisco are in Paris.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

\$1.50

STYLISH STYLES FOR SUMMER GIRLS!

We have them either in Lace Shoes or Oxfords, Black or Russet, Vesting or Plain Tops; any style of toe. We have a special drive, Ladies' Cloth or Kid Top Tan Oxfords, New Coin Ties and Boys' Hat and Socks, etc.

\$1.00

B. KATCHINSKI, PHILADELPHIA SHOE CO., 10 Third St., San Francisco.

FOR FINE TAILORING PERFECT FIT, BEST OF WORKMANSHIP, at 25 per cent Less than Other Tailors Charge, Go to JOE POHEIM

All Wool Suits to \$12 to \$35 Order from \$4 to \$10

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

REGISTRATION FOR THE SPECIAL election to be held Thursday, May 2, 1918 (submitting the new charter to a vote of the qualified electors) will commence at the office of the Registrar in "The City Hall," on April 22, 1918, and continue thence till the 15th of May, 1918.

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DUFFY'S PURE MALT WHISKEY



FOR MEDICINAL USE NO FUSEL OIL

For Dyspepsia, Indigestion and similar troubles as well as for preventing colds and checking pneumonia this great whiskey has no equal.

Insist upon securing it from your druggist or grocer. Send for illustrated pamphlet. DUFFY MALT WHISKEY CO., Rochester, N. Y.

AMUSEMENTS.

COLUMBIA THEATER. The Fascinating MARIE JANSEN

Presenting the Comedy Success "DELMONICO'S AT 6!"

A Happy Blending of Mirth and Melody. Nothing But Fun. Next Week "THE MOUNTAIN HUNTERS" Coming—ROBERT MANTELL.

BALDWIN THEATER. Second and Last Week. MATINEE SATURDAY. HOYT'S LATEST LAUGH LAUNCHER.

A STRANGER IN NEW YORK. Last Time Next Sunday.

EXTRA—Monday, April 25. First Production in America. The Nautical Farce Comedy, "THE PURSER"

Presented by FERRIS HARTMAN and a Strong Company. DIRECTOR OF THEATRE. SEATS NOW READY.

CALIFORNIA THEATER. LAST NIGHT—SATURDAY. Grand Opera in Italian of the renowned prima donna, Mrs. MELBA

Supported by the Lamoreaux-Hills Grand Opera Co. and the orchestra of the New York Symphony Society, presenting "Lucia di Lammermoor." Prices, \$1 to \$4. Next Sunday—"TRILBY." At popular prices, 10c, 25c and 50c. A complete production.

MOROSCO'S GRAND OPERA-HOUSE. Walter Morosco, Sole Lessee and Manager. Grand Reproduction of Scott Marble's Mechanical Drama, "THE DIAMOND BREAKER"

REALISTIC EFFECTS OF PONDEROUS MINE MACHINERY. The Diamond Breaker at Work. Thrilling Escape From Death. Great Scene in the Interior of an Insane Asylum.

Strong Cast. Clever Comedy. New Scenic Effects. MATINEES SATURDAY AND SUNDAY—Evening Prices—10c, 25c, 50c

THIS EVENING AT 8 SHARP. RAH! RAH! RAH! "THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER," First Act Second.

Our Brilliant Spectacular Burlesque, SINBAD THE SAILOR! NEXT WEEK—SECOND EDITION. Everything new and up to date. POPULAR PRICES—25c and 50c. Box office always open. No telephone.

ONLY THREE NIGHTS MORE. HYDE'S ALL-STAR COMEDY closing Saturday Night, April 23: HELEN MORA, Renowned Baritone; MCINTYRE & HEATH, Black Face Comedians; WILLIAMS & WALKER, The Real Colored Boys; CHARLES E. SWEET, The Piano; TRAFF, THORNE & CARLTON, Comedy Sketch Artists; LAFAYETTE, Fantastic Mimic; JAJAX, the Flexible Man.

Reserved Seats, 25c; Balcony, 10c; Opera Chairs and Box Seats, 50c.

ALCAZAR. SEATS BY PHONE MAIN 254. Hear GERTRUDE HOSER Recite A SONG FOR CUBA. MATINEE TO-MORROW.

THE STRANGE ADVENTURES OF MISS BROWN. Monday Night—L. R. STOCKWELL. THE GAY PARLIANS. Over 100 participants. Prices—10c, 25c, 50c

MECHANICS' PAVILION. FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 22, 1918. REVIEW AND DRILL. FIRST REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Grand drill by Naval Battalion, Signal Corps, Signal Corps, Concert by Legionnaires Band, Bridge Building, Attack and Repair, mimic war and exhibition of practical soldiering.

Admission, 25c; Reserved Seats, 50c extra, at Sherman & Clay's.

A RUSH TO THE FRONT IS MADE BY ALL THE ANIMALS AT FEEDING TIME. Afternoons and Evenings at the CHUTES.

10c to All, Including Zoo, etc.; Children, 5c. CHIQUITA receives afternoon and evenings.

SUTRO BATHS. SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 1918. Opening of the Swimming Season. Open Nights Thereafter.

IMMENSE PROGRAMME—Commencing at 2 P. M. General Admission, 10c; Children, 5c; Bathing, Including Admission—Adults, 25c; Children, 25c.

MARIA KIP ORPHANAGE. "7-20-8" Augustin Daly's charming comedy, by the HISTORIC SOCIETY of Trinity School. THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 21. Saturday Matinee April 22. Tickets 25c. Reserved Seats, 50c extra. At Sherman, Clay & Co.'s, April 19 to 23.

SHERMAN, CLAY HALL. Return engagement, evenings of April 25 and 27. Matinee 29th and 30th. LITTLE PALOMA SHERMAN, the child pianist, and composer. Seats on sale at Sherman, Clay & Co.'s, commencing April 25. Prices, 50c and \$1; children, 25c.

OLYMPIA. Come of Season and Eddy Shows. America's Most Beautiful Music Hall. SEE MANDOLA AND HIS DOG IN A GREAT SLIDE FOR LIFE, sensations and thrills in the extreme, and a great olio of specialties. Admission free.